

# STATE OF WISCONSIN Division of Hearings and Appeals

In the Matter of

DECISION

LNO/165632

## PRELIMINARY RECITALS

Pursuant to a petition filed April 22, 2015, under Wis. Admin. Code §DCF 201.07(1)(e), to review a decision by the review a decision by the Public Assistance Collection Unit (PACU) to issue a Notice of Warrant docketed for a Child Care overpayment, a telephonic hearing was held on May 14, 2015.

The issue for determination is whether petitioner's appeal was timely filed.

There appeared at that time and place the following persons:

PARTIES IN INTEREST:

Petitioner:



## Respondent:

Department of Children and Families 201 East Washington Avenue, Room G200 Madison, Wisconsin 53703

By: Keisha Love, Child Care Subsidy Specialist Sr.
Milwaukee Early Care Administration - MECA
Department of Children And Families
1220 W. Vliet St. 2nd Floor, 200 East
Milwaukee, WI 53205

## ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:

Kelly Cochrane Division of Hearings and Appeals

## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. Petitioner (CARES # ) is a resident of Milwaukee County.
- 2. On November 3, 2010, the county agency sent a written notice of negative action to the petitioner.

- 3. The petitioner filed a hearing request that was received by the Division of Hearings and Appeals on April 22, 2015.
- 4. The negative action in this case was warrant docketed for a lien to collect a child care overpayment.

## **DISCUSSION**

A hearing officer can only hear cases on the merits if there is jurisdiction to do so. There is no jurisdiction if a hearing request is untimely. An appeal of a negative action by the Department, or its agents, concerning a notice of warrant must be filed within 20 days from the date on the notice. Wis. Admin. Code §DCF 101.23(9)(a)5; see also, Wis. Stat. § 49.195(3s). A hearing request is considered filed on the date of actual receipt by DHA, or the date of the postmark, whichever is earlier. Wis. Admin. Code § HA 3.05(3)(c). A hearing request that is not filed within the 20-day time period must be dismissed for lack of jurisdiction. Wis. Admin. Code § HA 3.05(4)(e). The petitioner's appeal was filed 1631 days after the date of the action. Thus, it was untimely, and no jurisdiction exists for considering the merits of the case.

# **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

There is no jurisdiction as the appeal is untimely.

## THEREFORE, it is

## **ORDERED**

That the petition is dismissed.

#### REQUEST FOR A REHEARING

You may request a rehearing if you think this decision is based on a serious mistake in the facts or the law or if you have found new evidence that would change the decision. Your request must be **received** within 20 days after the date of this decision. Late requests cannot be granted.

Send your request for rehearing in writing to the Division of Hearings and Appeals, 5005 University Avenue, Suite 201, Madison, WI 53705-5400 **and** to those identified in this decision as "PARTIES IN INTEREST." Your rehearing request must explain what mistake the Administrative Law Judge made and why it is important or you must describe your new evidence and explain why you did not have it at your first hearing. If your request does not explain these things, it will be denied.

The process for requesting a rehearing may be found at Wis. Stat. § 227.49. A copy of the statutes may be found online or at your local library or courthouse.

## **APPEAL TO COURT**

You may also appeal this decision to Circuit Court in the county where you live. Appeals must be filed with the Court **and** served either personally or by certified mail on the Secretary of the Department of Children and Families, 201 East Washington Avenue, Room G200, Madison, Wisconsin 53703, **and** on those identified in this decision as "PARTIES IN INTEREST" **no more than 30 days after the date of this decision** or 30 days after a denial of a timely rehearing (if you request one).

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The process for Circuit Court Appeals may be found at Wis. Stat. §§ 227.52 and 227.53. A copy of the statutes may be found online or at your local library or courthouse.

Given under my hand at the City of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, this 29th day of July, 2015

\sKelly Cochrane Administrative Law Judge Division of Hearings and Appeals



## State of Wisconsin\DIVISION OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS

Brian Hayes, Administrator Suite 201 5005 University Avenue Madison, WI 53705-5400 Telephone: (608) 266-3096 FAX: (608) 264-9885 email: DHAmail@wisconsin.gov Internet: http://dha.state.wi.us

The preceding decision was sent to the following parties on July 29, 2015.

Milwaukee Early Care Administration - MECA Public Assistance Collection Unit